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SHINING TIME STATION

EPISODE #4

"Pitching In and Helping Out"

Second Draft

By Ellis Weiner

From characters and series storyline
created by Britt Allcroft and
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SHINING TIME STATION (W.T.)
EPISODE FOUR

(FADE IN:

STATION --STACY ON LADDER, PEERING
AT CLOCK. SHE GIVES IT A RAP
--SFX SPRINGS POPPING, GEARS
GRINDING. SHE LOOKS SURPRISED, A
LITTLE AMUSED, RAPS AGAIN. SFX:
A RATCHETING SOUND, AND A GREAT
BOING! --IT'S DONE FOR. SHE
STARES AT IT, MAYBE TWIRLS THE
HANDS, WHICH SPIN LOOSE AND
USELESS. SCHEMER IS EXAMINING
SOMETHING IN THE ARCADE.)

STACY

Now that's what I call a
broken clock.

(SCHEMER RISES AND STARTS TO
LEAVE, A BUSY MAN. HE CARRIES A
TARNISHED, DECREPIT OLD TEA POT.)

STACY

Schemer, how'd you like to
help me fix this thing?

SCHEMER

Impossible, Miss Jones.

I'm much too busy. Busy,
busy, busy.

STACY

But don't you think our
passengers will need to
know the time?

STATION -- STACY SCHEMER, PEERING
AT CLOCK. SHE GIVES IT A RAP
-- SCHEMER: ~~That's not the question~~
GRINDING. SHE LOOKS SURPRISED, A
LITTLE. ~~The question is, do I want~~
A RATCHETING SOUND, AND A GREAT
BOOM. ~~them to know the time?~~
SHE STARES AT IT, MAYBE TWIRLS THE
HANDS, WHICH FALL LOOSE, AND
USELESS. ~~SCHEMER~~ (SOFTLY IS EXAMINING
SHE) ~~(ponders for a second)~~ No

way! STACY

Now that's STACY call a

Schemer, if they don't

know the time, they'll

~~miss their train!~~ STACY STARTS TO
LEAVE A SUCY MAN. HE CARRIES A
TARNISHED, DECORATED OLD TEA POT.)
SCHEMER

Exactly. And they'll have

to wait for the next

train. And what will they

do while they're waiting?

(gestures toward arcade)
~~impossible, miss comes.~~

They'll spend money

playing my games.

Smart, eh? (holds up old

tea pot)

SCHEMER

Antique tea pot, Miss
Jones. Just needs a
little polish. A mere
five dollars and boom:
it's yours.

STACY

That tea pot's a mess!

SCHEMER

All right, four dollars.
(Stacy laughs; Schemer
remains deadpan)
Three.

STACY

Schemer, you were going to
throw it out!

(SCHEMER GLARES AT HER, PLACES
STAND TO THE SIDE, IN VIEW.)

SCHEMER

Rock bottom offer: Two
dollars. I'll just leave
it here while you think
about it. See you later.

(MATT AND TANYA ARRIVE AS SCHEMER
EXITS. HE GROWS UNCTUOUS.)

SCHEMER

Well, well. Matt and
Tanya. Salutations.

MATT AND TANYA
(dryly, unfazed)
Hi, Schemer...

(SCHEMER, ON HIS WAY OUT THE DOOR,
TRIPS OVER HIS SHOE LACE.)

Five dollars and boom:

SCHEMER

It's yours.

Darn shoe laces!

(HE GLARES AT THE KIDS DURING THEM.
TO LAUGH. BOTH STIELE GIGGLES.
SCHEMER REMEMBERS HIMSELF, SMILES.)

SCHEMER

SCHEMER

All right, four dollars.

My two favorite children.

(Stacy laughs: Schemer

remains dejected)

(SCHEMER EXITS. MATT AND TANYA
MOVE TO LADDER.)

TANYA

Wow, Stacy, can't I come up?

there? No out!

SCHEMER PLACES STACY PLACES
HOLD ON THE LADDER. MATT

Not so fast, Tanya. I'm

SCHEMER

trying to fix the clock.

Now listen, Stacy: Two

Tell you what--you hold

dollars. I'll just leave

the ladder, and Matt, you

is here while you think

get me the big screwdriver

from the toolbox over

there.

there.

MATT

Sure...

(MATT GOES TO TOOLBOX. STAY ON
TANYA AND STACY.)

TANYA

What's the matter with it?

(GESTURING "WATCH THIS," STACY
RAPS THE CLOCK WITH A FIST. SFX:
RANDOM ARRAY OF SOUNDS--GEARS,
BELLS, CUCKOO, MAYBE A PIANO
GLISSANDO, CAR-HORN HONK, ETC.
TANYA'S DELIGHTED.)

TANYA (CONT'D)

That's neat. I like that!

(SFX TRAIN)

STACY

Me, too. But it doesn't
tell us the time. There's
no way to tell if that
train's on time if I can't
tell the time. Now
where's that screwdriver?

(ANGLE ON MATT AT TOOLBOX--HE
HOLDS SCREWDRIVER IN ONE HAND,
HOLDS UP BALL OF STRING IN OTHER.)

MATT

Can I have this?

(HE CARRIES BOTH OVER TO LADDER,
HANDS STACY SCREWDRIVER.)

STACY

Sure.

(takes screwdriver)

Thanks. (Tanya says, "STACY
SAVES THE CROWN WITH A SCREWDRIVER."
RANDOM ARRAY OF TANYA'S SOUNDS,
BELLS, CUCKOO, WHISTLE & FLING
GLIDE) What can you do with an old
ball of string?

Tanya's delighted.

Tanya's delighted.

STACY

That's dead. A little dead.

Are you kidding? Just

look at it! You can run

STACY

it across the room, or

tie it up. But it doesn't

curl it up like a worm.

Well, as the time. There's

You can tie things, pull

no way to tell if that

things--Like my

Grandmother's on time if I can't

grandmother used to say:

Well, the time. Now

"Let my life be like a

Where's that? (Tanya's sound)

piece of string: long,

strong, and soft at the

TALE ON HATT AT 10:00--10:10

end." (Tanya's sound)

TALE ON HATT AT 10:10--10:20

HAIT

(MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS ON CLOCK.
IN A PUFF OF MAGIC DUST.)

MR. CONDUCTOR

(raises eyebrows)

Your old granny never said

that.

STACY

(looking bashful)

Well, as a matter of fact,

I made it up

MR. CONDUCTOR

Not bad. For a beginner

STACY

Thank you. (PUTS DOWN

SCREWDRIVER; CLIMBS DOWN.)

What I need is oil. Be

right back.

(STACY EXITS)

MATT

Did you really know Aunt

Stacy's grandmother?

MR. CONDUCTOR

Once upon a time, along
time ago, Stacy's granny
used to run this station.
That's when I met her.
Why, she could tell you
which train was coming
just by its whistle. And
she was very good at
having fun. Better than
most people, in fact.

Good

TANYA

That's silly. Everybody
knows how to have fun.
Stacy's grand MR. G.
That's not true, Tanya.
Do you mind if I call you
Tanya Lasagna? Good. No,
you see, everybody likes
to have fun, but not
everybody knows how to go
about it. Stacy does.
And so did her grandmother.

Good

Good

MATT

(holds up a loop of string)

What did she do with
string?

MR. C.

Why she used to play Cat's
Cradle. All the time.

TANYA

Oh, I can do that.

(TANYA TAKES STRING FROM MATT,
LOOPS IT AROUND HER HANDS, ETC.,
UNDER--)

MATT

Who did she used to play
it with?

MR. C.

Who else? Your Aunt Stacy.

(TANYA HOLDS IT UP. MATT TAKES
IT. SHE TAKES IT BACK--AND GETS
TANGLED UP)

TANYA

Help! I'm stuck!

MATT

Wait a minute--

MATT UNTIES TANYA.

TANYA

Thanks.

MR. C.

Well done, Matt. It makes
you feel good when you
help someone out, doesn't
it? Over on the Island of
Sodor, the engines all
say, it makes you feel
really useful. Like once
when James needed

help--well, you'll see ...

TANIA TAKES STEERING FROM MATT
LOOKS TO GROUND HER HANDS
(HE BLOWS WHISTLE: STEAM EFFECT)

(DISSOLVE TO) MATT

(2 THOMAS EPISODE #7--"THOMAS AND
THE BREAKDOWN TRAIN")

(DISSOLVE TO
3 MAIN SET)

TANYA

I bet Thomas felt really
important when he was
pulling the breakdown
train.

MR. C.

Oh, no. He was worried
about James. He wanted to
help him.

MATT

I wish someone would help
us figure out what to do
with the rest of this
string.

MR. C.

You'll have to help each
other with that, I'm
afraid. Now please excuse
me for a minute. Here's my
house I must go in it.

(HE DISAPPEARS INTO STATION HOUSE.)

MATT

Wait a second. Once Aunt
Stacy showed me how to
make flowers out of
string--

TANYA

Flowers? How?

MATT

Let's see ...

(INTERCUT BETWEEN HIS HANDS AND
THEIR FACES, AS MATT FASHIONS
FLOWER OUT OF STRING. AD LIB
SUITABLE COVERING PHRASES, EG,
"THERE ... THEN YOU DO THIS,"
ETC. FINALLY--)

MATT

Ta daa! See?

TANYA

What the heck is this?
That's not a flower.

MATT

It's a string flower.
You'll have to help each

TANYA

...with that. You
(brightening, inspired)
afraid. Now please excuse
Oh! Yes! Okay--

...for a minute.

...I must go to it.

(SHE STARTS TO MAKE ONE, AND MATT
ANOTHER. CONTINUE WITH THAT FOR
AS LONG AS NECESSARY, FOCUSING ON
THEIR INTENT FACES, UNTIL--
ANGLE ON SET--MATT LOOKS UP AT HIM
AS TANYA WORKS.)MATT

Wait a MR.CONDUCTOR

Well, it looks like you've
made real progress.

MATT

We're making flowers.

TANYA

String flowers.

MATT

You know, you can do a lot
with string.

MR. C.

Sometimes string can do a
lot with itself.

MATT

Huh?

TANYA

That doesn't make sense!

MR. CONDUCTOR

It will in a minute. Just

look at this--

(HE HOLDS OUT HAND, AND MAGIC
BUBBLE APPEARS.)
(CUT TO

4 INSERT: ACQUIRED
FOOTAGE--STRING ANIMATION)

(CUT TO

5 ANGLE ON SET--HARRY ENTERS
PENSIVELY, GOES TO JUKE BOX,
FISHES IN POCKET FOR NICKEL, PUTS
IT IN.)

HARRY

I been thinking of this
song all morning. Woke up
with it in my head, and
can't get it out.

(inserts nickel)

(CUT TO:

6 INT. JUKE BOX--THE BAND IS IN
PLACE. NICKEL DESCENDS.)

TITO

Hey, man, it's groove

time. Like go get that

nickel, Didi, and let's

wail.

DIDI

Forget it, Tito. I got

all my pots and pans in

the right position for

once. I'm all set up nice

out here.

BASSMAN ENTERS

RECEIVES NICKEL FROM TITO

You get it, Tito. Please.

TITO

HAPPY

I was set up nice, too,

I been thinking to this

man, ...

sang all morning. Time up

(TITO GETS UP AND RETRIEVES THE
NICKEL; PUTS IT DOWN, RETURNS TO
PIANO, UNDER--)

TEX

inserts nickel

Are you nice and comfy

there, Rex?

REX

Why I sure am. Thank you,

Tex.

TEX

You're welcome, Rex.

TITO

(dryly)

Okay, everybody comfy and
nice? Good. "Railroad
Corral", and one, and two--

(MUSIC UP. "RAILROAD CORRAL")

(CUT TO

7 INTERCUT: BAND, TRAIN FOOTAGE,
COWBOYS ROPING CATTLE)

(CUT TO

(HARRY'S WORKSHOP--HARRY IS
SITTING AT DESK, FUSSING OVER
SOMETHING ON HIS WORKBENCH A SMALL
WINDOW SIGN (SAY, 8 X 10 INCHES)
NORMALLY HUNG BY A TINY LINK
CHAIN. THE CHAIN IS BROKEN, AND
HE'S TRYING TO MEND IT. IT'S NOT
WORKING. THE TABLE IS COVERED
WITH SOLDER EQUIPMENT. HE HUMS
SONG TO HIMSELF, PUTS SOLDER IRON
DOWN, AS THE KIDS ENTER.)

TANYA

What are you doing,

Grandpa?

HARRY

What's it look like I'm
doing? I'm trying to fix
this sign up. The chain
snapped off. ~~Harry's been~~
~~here?~~ Good MATT. ~~Heard~~
What kind of sign is it?

MUSIC UP. "TRAIN HARRY CORRAL"

It's a sign for the front

door. ~~of Your Aunt Stacy's house,~~
~~where the happy home~~
said this sign was here

when the station first

~~HARRY'S WORKSHOP--HARRY IS~~
~~SITTING~~ opened, ~~a long time ago~~
SOMETHING ON HIS WORKBENCH A SMALL
WOODEN SIGN. ~~IT WAS~~ TANYA 10 INCHES
TANYA'S HEAD BY A FEET LONG

What's all this stuff? ~~AND~~
HE'S TRYING TO MEND IT. IT'S NOT
WORKING. THE ~~HARRY'S~~ ~~SIGN~~
~~WAS~~ ~~IT~~ ~~WAS~~ ~~IT~~
(grows chatty, for him)

Solder. It's supposed to

fix the chain. But it's not
~~that~~ ~~are you doing.~~
working. Maybe this time
~~will~~
will do it.

(beat; awkwardly)

What've you kids been
doing?

TANYA

Mr. Conductor showed us
some string that moved
around!

HARRY

(uncomprehending; humoring
her)
Uh-huh.

TANYA

And he told us a story
about Thomas the tank
engine, and James.

HARRY

Sounds like a real
interesting fella.

TANYA

(reaching to touch sign)
Is it done yet?

HARRY

Now keep your paws to
yourself.
(looks at it critically;
moves kids aside with his
hand)
Now stand back. Gimme
some room.

(THE KIDS FALL BACK AS HARRY STANDS AND GIVES THE MEND ONE FINAL BLOW TO DRY IT. HE CAREFULLY REACHES OUT AND LIFTS IT UP--THE CHAIN HOLDS, DANGLING FREE.)

HARRY

HARRY

(uncomprehending; humming)

Uh-huh...

her)

TANYA

Uh-huh.

It works--!

TANYA

And he told us a story

(HARRY WAVES HER QUIET WITH A GESTURE, THEN CAREFULLY HANGS THE SIGN ON A HOOK OR PEG ON HIS TOOL BOARD (OR WHATEVER) IT HOLDS. THE SIGN (IN PERIOD FRONT) COULD READ SOMETHING LIKE)

Sound SHINING TIME STATION

Trains

From Here... To Everywhere!

TANYA

HARRY

(reaching to touch sign)

Is it some good?

Well okay.

HARRY

(HARRY REACHES OUT AND PAYS TO

KIDS

yourself.

YAAAYY!

(HARRY REACHES OUT AND PAYS TO

(BEAT--THE CHAIN BREAKS. THE SIGN FALLS OFF. DEAD-QUIET.)

(HARRY REGARDS IT, NODS, TAKES HIS GLASSES OFF, LOWERS HIMSELF INTO HIS CHAIR, AND THINKS ABOUT IT.)

(ANGLE ON KIDS--TANYA WHISPERS SOMETHING TO MATT, WHO NODS AND STEPS FORWARD SHYLY AND OFFERS STRING.)

MATT

Harry...? Maybe you could
use this?

(CU--HARRY TAKES THE STRING AND
LOOKS AT IT AS THOUGH HE'S NEVER
SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE.)

HARRY

What in tarnation is
this? String?

(HE GETS UP, DEADPAN BUT RESOLUTE,
AND GETS FROM HIS TOOLS A PAIR OF
WIRE CUTTERS. SITS BACK DOWN AND
GRABS SIGN.)

HARRY (CONT'D)

I've been thinking too
sodor
much about sodor.

(snorts)

String. Now that's the
ticket.

(HE CUTS THE CHAIN OFF THE SIGN AT
BOTH ENDS. THEN HE RAPIDLY
THREADS SEVERAL LENGTHS OF STRING
THROUGH THE EYELETS THAT HELD THE
CHAIN, TIES IT OFF, AND HANGS THE
SIGN AGAIN. IT HOLDS.)

KIDS

YAYY--

HARRY

(motions for quiet)

Kids: I want to thank you

very much. It was a heck

of a good idea. Big help.
(HE SHUFFLES BACK TO WORKBENCH,
BUSIES HIMSELF WITH SOMETHING, A
LITTLE EMBARRASSED. THE KIDS TAKE
THEIR CUE, AND MOVE TOWARD DOOR.)

(HE SHUFFLES BACK TO WORKBENCH,
BUSIES HIMSELF WITH SOMETHING, A
LITTLE EMBARRASSED. THE KIDS TAKE
THEIR CUE, AND MOVE TOWARD DOOR.)

TANYA

WE SEE YOU later, Grandpa.
AND GETS FROM HIS TOOLS A SHIP OF
TIRE TUNERS. HARRYAN GOES IN
TOO.

(mutters and waves)

I've been thinking too
(CUT TO:

much about order.

MAIN STATION AREA --MATT AND TANYA
EMERGE FROM HARRY'S OFFICE. MR.
CONDUCTOR APPEARS, SEATED ON THE
INFORMATION DESK.)

MATT

(holds up string)

There's only a little bit
left: several lengths of string
and a few pieces of wood.

TANYA

Let's do something really
special with it!

MR. CONDUCTOR

My you have been busy. Of
course, string can be a
great problem solver.
Now, why does that
reminds me of James...?

TANYA

Thomas' friend? The
train? You can't fix a
train with string.

MR. CONDUCTOR

I didn't say you could.

TANYA

Good. Because you can't.

MR. C.

It was a shoe-lace.

TANYA

A shoe-lace?

MR. CONDUCTOR

And a newspaper.

MATT

Really?

MR. CONDUCTOR

Really. I know.

My you have been busy. Of

(THEY TURN, SEE HIM AT STATION
HOUSE. HE POINTS OVER HIS
SHOULDER - "TOWARDS SODOR".)

Now, my MR. CONDUCTOR

They're very clever on the
Island of Sodor. Almost
as clever as your Grandpa,
Miss Tanya Lasagna. Let
me show you.

MR. CONDUCTOR

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE: SAME EFFECT

DISSOLVE TO

10 THOMAS EPISODE #8-- "JAMES AND
THE COACHES")

(DISSOLVE TO

11 ANGLE ON STATION HOUSE)

MATT

It wasn't James' fault
that happened. It wasn't
even the coaches' fault.
It was because he had
those bad brakes.

MR. CONDUCTOR

That's true. But if he
hadn't been banging the
coaches about--

STACY (O.S.)

Aha! Oh, fooey...

(12 LOST AND FOUND AREA--STACY IS
RUMMAGING THROUGH EVERYTHING IN
SEARCH OF A LITTLE CAN OF OIL.)

STACY

I know it's here. I just
used it the other day.

(MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS, WATCHES
HER FOR A SECOND.)

MR. CONDUCTOR

Perhaps I can be of
service.

STACY

(preoccupied; not looking
at him)

No, no , I'll do it--

MR. CONDUCTOR

I'd like to help--

STACY

Mr. Conductor, please, I
have to learn to do these
repairs myself.

STACY (CONT'D)

(snaps fingers)

I just remembered where it

is!

MR. CONDUCTOR

You mean the oil?

ALL 1987 AND STACY REM--STACY IS
STAGNANT THROUGH ENTIRE END
SC. How did you know I was

looking for the oil?

MR. CONDUCTOR

Oh, just a lucky guess.

STACY
(STACY OPENS A SHOE BOX, AND:)

(SFX: CORNY CHA-CHA VERSION OF
"TEA FOR TWO")

(RESUME--STACY SHUTS DOOR)

STACY

Sorry... Wrong box...

(SHE SLAMS BOX SHUT. THEN STARTS
UPSTAGE TOWARD THE ARCH.)

MR. C.

Where are you going?

STACY

Outside, to look on the
platform.

MR. C.

It's not out there.

STACY

Then tell me! Where is it?

(ANGLE ON MR. C. HE IS A LITTLE
WOUNDED BY HER TONE.)

MR. C.

You needn't snap at me,
you know, I may be small,
but I have feelings, too.

STACY

I'm sorry. I should have
said please--. It's just
that I've been trying to
fix the clock--

MR. CONDUCTOR

The clock? Oh, well,
that's different, isn't
it? Do you know, I've
been late for every one of
my appointments for the
last nine years, three
months, one week, four
days, eight hours, two
minutes, and twenty-three
seconds?

STACY

That's why I need the
oil! Then I can open the
clock and fix it.

MR. CONDUCTOR

Look on the floor of the
ticket booth. I saw you
leave it there yesterday.

STACY

The ticket booth. Oh!

Thanks.

MR. CONDUCTOR

Not at all. It's a
pleasure to help.

CUT TO:

(ARCADE--MATT AND TANYA STAND AT
THE NICKELODEON.)

(TANYA NODS, "TAKE A LOOK." MATT
STEPS UP AND STARTS TURNING THE
HANDLE.)

CUT TO:

(MUSICAL NUMBER: FLEISCHER - A
LITTLE HELP GOES A LONG WAY)

CUT TO:

(MAIN SET--STACY EMERGES FROM
DOORWAY FROM PREVIOUS SCENE, A CAN
OF 3-IN-ONE OIL IN HER HAND.)

STACY

Ta-daa!

(to Mr. Conductor)

Thank you. I couldn't
have done it without your
help

MR. CONDUCTOR

You're quite welcome.

(glancing towards main
entrance)

Whoops! That fellow
again. Oh, well--ta-ta-,

Stacy! And remember:

Some folks make you want

to laugh and shout/But at
the Nickelodeon.

some folks you can live

without? STACY STRIDES TOWARDS THE
ELEVATOR.

(HE VANISHES. SCHEMER STRIDES
BACK IN, IMPATIENT AS ALWAYS.)

(STACY EMERGES FROM THE
ELEVATOR. STACY GOES A LONG WAY)

(not seeing Schemer)

So long, Mr. Conductor.

STACY EMERGES FROM THE
ELEVATOR. SCHEMER STRIDES TOWARDS THE
ELEVATOR. STACY GOES A LONG WAY.

You're losing your

marbles, kiddo Talking to
the furniture. Bad sign.

STACY

Thank you. I will be
Oh, Schemer, It's you.

SCHEMER

The one and only.

(AND HE TRIPS OVER HIS SHOE LACE
GOES CAREENING, MUST CATCH HIMSELF
ON THE INFORMATION DESK AS MATT
AND TANYA ENTER FROM THE ARCADE.)

SCHEMER (CONT'D)

These darn laces!

STACY

Why don't you try tying
them?

SCHEMER

Can't. Too busy. (a beat)
Besides, every time I tie
my shoelaces they come
untied again. Now watch.
Just watch this. You'll
see.

(HE BENDS OVER AND GIVES THEM A
SHARP YANK, WHICH CAUSES ONE TO
SNAP OFF IN HIS HAND. IT GIVES
HIM A FRIGHT.)

SCHEMER (CONT'D)

Yah! Now look what you
made me do!

(tries the other ones;
same result)

YAAHH!

(flings laces to the
ground)

There, see? Take all the
time to tie them, they
break off in your hand.
Just as well. I don't
need shoe laces.

(HE STARTS TO WALK, AND PROMPTLY WALKS OUT OF HIS SHOES, WHICH GO FLOPPING THIS WAY AND THAT, WHILE HE IS LEFT IN HIS SOCKS. AS BEFORE, HE WINDS UP FACING MATT AND TANYA, BOTH TRYING TO SUPPRESS HILARITY.)

SCHEMER

This is not my fault, I'm
a businessman. I don't
know anything about shoes.

(both kids nod solemnly)

They're not my field! My
field is vending
machines! Games. Money.

(pause) ~~THE KIDS ARE THE~~
~~ABOUT WHAT WHICH WOULD SHE BE~~
~~STACY~~ Did you kids go to the GYMNASIUM
~~THE... (SILENT)~~

Arcade today?

(ANGLE ON STACY--SHE SPIES THE REMAINING BALL OF STRING IN MATT'S HAND, AND DRAMATICALLY POINTS AT IT, ARM COMPLETELY EXTENDED.)

(REVERSE ANGLE--THE KIDS SEE HER POINT, AND LOOK AT HER, BEWILDERED.)

(RESUME--STACY CROOKS HER INDEX FINGER AND MOTIONS "COME HERE" TO THEM. THEY WALK OVER AS SCHEMER FUMES.)

SCHEMER

What. What's going on.

(STACY WHISPERS SOMETHING TO MATT AND TANYA. BOTH RECOIL.)

SCHEMER (CONT'D)

I don't like secrets.

Unless they're mine.

TANYA

(to Stacy)

No. This is our string.

And there's only a little
bit left.

MATT

We wanted to do something
special with it.

STACY

You'd be using it to help
someone. That's pretty
special, isn't it?

MATT

But Aunt Stacy...it's
Schemer.

(ANGLE ON SET: AN INCIDENTAL
HAPPENING--MATT FALLS SILENT AS A
MAN IN SCUBA SUIT (WET SUIT, TANK,
MASK, SPEAR GUN IF POSSIBLE, ETC.)
PADS IN (ON FLIPPERS) FROM THE
MAIN ENTRANCE, TOWARD THE
PLATFORM. HE STOPS, TAKES HIS
MASK OFF, AND--)

*GOLDFISH IN
A BOWEL*

SCUBA MAN

When's the next train to
the beach?

STACY

Twenty minutes.

SCUBA MAN

Thanks.

(HE PUTS HIS MASK BACK ON, PADS
OUT TOWARDS PLATFORM.)

SCHEMER

(to Stacy)
See? He doesn't wear
No. This is our string.
shoes. Some people know
And there's only one way
how to live.

STACY

Come on, kids. Let
He wanted to do something
Schemer use your string,
special with it.
or he'll be grumbling

about his shoes forever.

(TANYA AND MATT TRADE A SILENT
LOOK, GIVE A GRUDGING OK, TANYA
TAKES BALL TO SCHEMER.)

TANYA

Here, Schemer. You can
use it for shoe laces.

SCHEMER

Well...all-right. Thank
you. If you can, please
pass me my flipper from the
(SCHEMER RETRIEVES HIS SHOES, AND
SPIES THE TEA POT. HE DROPS THE
SHOES, GRABS THE TEA POT, AND
HOLDS IT UP TOWARDS STACY.)

SCHEMER

Two dollars, Miss Jones.

My absolute final offer.

Period.

STACY

No thanks, Schemer.

SCHEMER

One dollar.

STACY

I think I'll pass,

Schemer.

(SCHEMER, STILL HOLDING STAND AND STRING, SNORTS, PICKS UP HIS SHOES AND WALKS TOWARD THE BENCH. BUT HE SEES MATT AND TANYA, STOPS A HALF-BEAT TO THINK, THEN APPROACHES THEM, ALL PHONY SMILES.)

SCHEMER

Here you are, children.

This lovely antique tea

pot. A present, from me

to you. Isn't it nice?

(HE SHOVES IT IN MATT'S HANDS AND EXITS OUT THE ARCH TOWARD THE PLATFORM.)

MATT

What do we do with this?

(STACY SNAPS HER FINGERS AND LEAPS OVER TO THE STRING FLOWERS AND POPS THEM INTO THE POT.)

STACY

This is what I love the
most--taking one fun,
silly thing, and putting
it together with an old,
useless thing--and voila!

Making something

~~NOT TERRIFIC!!~~ Now--where TARD AND
HARRY SPORTS, PICKS UP HIS SHOES
AND ~~should we put it?~~ HENCK. BUT
HE SEES MATT AND TARDIA. STOPS A
SELF-BLAST TO THE KIDS THEN
APPROACHES THEM. (ALL THREE LAUGH.)
(pointing to info booth)

There! ~~CHIMES~~

Here you are STACY! ~~CHIMES~~

Hey! Let's fix the clock!

(MUSIC UP AS KIDS GHEER, ALL THREE
BUSTLE AROUND FOR LADDER, TOOLS,
ETC. MAYBE HARRY EMERGES FROM HIS
OFFICE WITH THE SIGN, GOES OVER
AND HANDS IT TO STACY, WHO EXULTS,
ETC., UNDER--)

(CLOSING CREDITS)

(CLOSING VISUAL: CLOCK AT LAST
CHIMES).

(FADE:) SNAPS HER FINGERS AND LEAPS
OVER TO THE SIDING TABLES AND
THE KIDS